



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING


RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

March 25, 2014

MEMORANDUM

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Michael P. Flanagan, Chairman 

SUBJECT: Approval of Criteria for Section 31b – Year-Round Schools Grant

The State Legislature has proposed to fund a \$2 million Year-Round Schools Grant as part of the 2013-2014 school aid supplemental appropriation. The funds are to be used for necessary modifications to instructional facilities and other nonrecurring costs to prepare for the operation of a year-round instructional program. Eligible applicants are at-risk districts that adopt a resolution to implement, for the first time, a year-round instructional calendar beginning in 2014-2015 in at least one school building.

The proposed legislation includes an application deadline of May 1, 2014, with award notifications to be made no later than June 1, 2014. Due to the anticipated scheduling mandate, grant criteria is submitted for approval prior to passage of the appropriations bill into law.

It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve the Criteria for Section 31b – Year-Round Schools Grant, as attached to the Superintendent's memorandum dated March 25, 2014.

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MICHIGAN STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Criteria for Section 31b – Year-Round Schools Grant

The State Board of Education has adopted as its mission “All students graduate ready for careers, college, and community.”

To the extent possible, all grant criteria and grant awards will serve to further attain the above goal.

SBE MISSION, POLICIES, AND PROGRAMS THAT THESE CRITERIA SUPPORT

This grant supports the mission of the State Board of Education by funding facility improvements that allow districts to implement instructional programs that support high-quality learning.

PURPOSE / BACKGROUND OF GRANT

Type of Grant Program:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New | <input type="checkbox"/> Continuing |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Competitive | <input type="checkbox"/> Designated in Legislation or MDE Proposal |

Section 31b in the state aid supplemental appropriations bill (HB4295) proposes an allocation of \$2 million for grants to at-risk districts for implementing a year-round instructional program. Grants are to be used for necessary modifications to instructional facilities and other nonrecurring costs of preparing for the operation of a year-round instructional program as approved by the Michigan Department of Education (MDE).

Year-round instructional program calendars must be consistent with the *Standards for Determining a Bona Fide Year Round School* attached to the Labor Day Waiver [MCL 380.1284b]. Districts will be required to submit a request for a Labor Day waiver for instructional programs that begin before Labor Day. The State Superintendent will grant the waiver if it is determined that the school or program is a bona fide year-round school or program established for educational purposes.

Awarded districts must commit to providing a year-round instructional calendar for at least three school years. Districts will not be required to provide more than the minimum number of days and hours of pupil instruction, but must spread at least the minimum amounts of pupil instruction over the entire year in each school implementing a year-round instructional program calendar.

CRITERIA

Date criteria were last approved: n/a

Source of Criteria:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> A. Federal Law, Rules or Regulation | <input type="checkbox"/> C. Proposed by Staff |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B. State Law or Rules | <input type="checkbox"/> D. Defined in MDE's Approved Grant Proposal to the Funder |

MDE will select districts for grants from among applicants that meet both of the following requirements:

- District meets one or both of the following:
 - (i) Eligible in 2013-2014 for the Community Eligibility Option for free and reduced price lunch under 42 USC 1759a.
 - (ii) At least 50% of the pupils in membership in the district met the income eligibility criteria for free breakfast, lunch, or milk in the immediately preceding state fiscal year, as determined under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act, 42 USC 1751 to 1769i.
- Local school board has adopted a resolution stating that the district will implement for the first time a year-round instructional calendar that will begin in 2014-2015 for at least one school operated by the district and committing to providing the year-round instructional calendar in each of those schools for at least three school years.

MDE will award grants on a competitive basis, giving priority based solely on consideration of the following criteria:

- Districts with lower general fund balances as a percentage of revenues.
- Districts that operate at least one school that has been identified by the department as either a priority school or a focus school.
- Ensuring that grant funding includes both rural and urban districts.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS AND TARGET POPULATION SERVED

Eligible applicants are districts that are either eligible in FY 2013-14 for the Community Eligibility Option for free and reduced price lunch or that at least 50% of the pupils in membership in the district met the income eligibility criteria for free breakfast, lunch, or milk in the immediately preceding state fiscal year, as determined under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act, 42 USC 1751 to 1769i.

The target population served is students in districts that receive funding for facility improvements for operation of a year-round instructional program.

TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE

\$2 million is proposed for allocation in the current school year.

STATUTE

House Bill 4295 is anticipated to be passed into law prior to the end of the current school year.

OFFICE ADMINISTERING GRANT / PROGRAM CONTACT

Office of School Support Services
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